

NOV 17 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify that the below-identified Preliminary Amendment is being deposited as First Class Mail on this date with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450:

Date: November 14, 2003

By Kim L. Wilson
Signature of Person Depositing as First Class Mail

-- PATENT --

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants:	Kemmons A. Tubbs Karl F. Gruber Randall W. Nelson	Docket No.:	41821.0900 (530-011B)
Serial No.:	10/053,098	Confirmation No.:	1833
Filing Date:	January 15, 2002	Examiner:	Ernest G. Therkorn
Title:	INTEGRATED HIGH THROUGHPUT SYSTEM FOR THE MASS SPECTROMETRY OF BIOMOLECULES	Art Unit:	1723

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

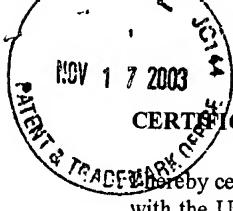
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please withdraw any prior filed Preliminary Amendments, and specifically the Preliminary Amendment previously submitted by Applicant dated August 28, 2003 and replace it with the following Amendments to the Claims:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks directed to Applicants' election begin on page 5 of this paper.



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL

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I hereby certify that the below-identified Response to Office Communication is being deposited as First Class Mail on this date with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450:

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Communication dated October 14, 2003, Applicant's respectfully request the withdrawal of the Preliminary Amendment filed August 28, 2003 and request that the newly attached Preliminary Amendment be considered in its place.

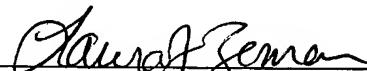
The Office Communication of October 14, 2003 set out specific omissions with respect to Applicant's election of species. In response to the Examiner's communication, Applicant hereby elects new claims 15-24 contained in Applicant's attached Preliminary Amendment. Applicant has withdrawn all other currently pending claims and added these new claims 15-24 to specifically capture Applicant's election of species.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss Applicant's election of species or deem that further clarification needs to be made with respect to Applicant's election of species, then the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience.

Dated: November 14, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By



Laura J. Zeman

Reg. No. 36,078

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